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APPLICATION OF

VIRGINIA-AMERICAN WATER COMPANY

CASE NO. PUE-2002-00375

For a general increase in rates

HEARING EXAMINER'S RULING

November 22, 2002

Virginia-American Water Company ("Virginia-American") filed its Application for a general increase in rates on June 24, 2002, and asked that the proposed rates go into effect for service rendered on and after November 22, 2002.

On November 21, 2002, Virginia-American, by counsel, filed a Motion to Defer Effective Date of Alexandria Rate Increase and Delay Rebuttal Testimony. Virginia-American requests that the current permanent rates in the Alexandria District not be changed pending the Commission's final decision in this proceeding. The Company would, however, put into effect on November 22, 2002, the proposed rates for the Hopewell District. The Motion further requests that the filing date for Company rebuttal be extended from December 2, 2002, to December 9, 2002. Virginia-American represents that the Commission Staff does not object to the Motion. I have been advised that counsel for the parties to this proceeding do not object to the Motion.

I find the Motion to Defer Effective Date of Alexandria Rate Increase and Delay Rebuttal Testimony should be granted. Accordingly,

IT IS DIRECTED THAT:

- (1) Virginia-American shall allow the current permanent rates in the Alexandria District to remain in effect pending the Commission's final order in this case; and
- (2) Virginia-American shall file its rebuttal testimony on or before December 9, 2002.

Alexander F. Skirpan, Jr.
Hearing Examiner